

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

NOTIFICATION OF ELECTION

(PCT Rule 61.2)

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

To:

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
 United States Patent and Trademark
 Office
 Box PCT
 Washington, D.C. 20231
 ETATS-UNIS D'AMERIQUE

in its capacity as elected Office

Date of mailing (day/month/year) 11 August 2000 (11.08.00)	
International application No. PCT/NL99/00757	Applicant's or agent's file reference BO 42118
International filing date (day/month/year) 10 December 1999 (10.12.99)	Priority date (day/month/year) 11 December 1998 (11.12.98)
Applicant LUDOLPHIJ, Johannes, Wilhelmus, Lubertus	

1. The designated Office is hereby notified of its election made:

☒ in the demand filed with the International Preliminary Examining Authority on:

11 July 2000 (11.07.00)

☐ in a notice effecting later election filed with the International Bureau on:2. The election ☒ was☐ was not

made before the expiration of 19 months from the priority date or, where Rule 32 applies, within the time limit under Rule 32.2(b).

The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland Facsimile No.: (41-22) 740.14.35	Authorized officer Juan Cruz Telephone No.: (41-22) 338.83.38
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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference BO 42118	FOR FURTHER ACTION	See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)
International application No. PCT/NL99/00757	International filing date (day/month/year) 10/12/1999	Priority date (day/month/year) 11/12/1998
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC B63B43/18		
Applicant SCHELDE MARITIEM B.V. et al.		

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.



2. This REPORT consists of a total of 4 sheets, including this cover sheet.

- ☐ This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e. sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).

These annexes consist of a total of sheets.

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

- I ☒ Basis of the report
- II ☐ Priority
- III ☐ Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- IV ☐ Lack of unity of invention
- V ☒ Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- VI ☐ Certain documents cited
- VII ☐ Certain defects in the international application
- VIII ☐ Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 11/07/2000	Date of completion of this report 27.09.2000
Name and mailing address of the international preliminary examining authority:  European Patent Office D-80298 Munich Tel. +49 89 2399 - 0 Tx: 523656 epmu d Fax: +49 89 2399 - 4465	Authorized officer Nicol, Y Telephone No. +49 89 2399 2984 

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT**

International application No. PCT/NL99/00757

I. Basis of the report

1. This report has been drawn on the basis of (*substitute sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to the report since they do not contain amendments.*):

Description, pages:

1-3 as originally filed

Claims, No.:

1-6 as originally filed

Drawings, sheets:

1/1 as originally filed

2. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- ☐ the description, pages:
☐ the claims, Nos.:
☐ the drawings, sheets:

3. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed (Rule 70.2(c)):

4. Additional observations, if necessary:

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT**

International application No. PCT/NL99/00757

V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Yes: Claims 1-6
	No: Claims
Inventive step (IS)	Yes: Claims 1-6
	No: Claims
Industrial applicability (IA)	Yes: Claims 1-6
	No: Claims

2. Citations and explanations

see separate sheet

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT - SEPARATE SHEET**

International application No. PCT/NL99/00757

Document **EP 0 799 764**, which is considered to represent the most relevant state of the art, discloses a construction whose aim is to provide a substantially improved collision-resistant double-skinned structure of a vessel.

This is achieved by a particular tube construction.

The present invention proposes an alternative construction with the same goal and without any tube construction.

The solution proposed by the application consists in a structure having a series of channels attached by the tips of their side walls to the inner surface of the outer skin of the structure, the base of each channel being connected at least by a stringer, essentially perpendicular to said base, to the inner skin of the structure or to a construction attached thereto.

This combination of features of independent claim 1 is neither known from, nor rendered obvious by, the available prior art cited in the international search report.

As claims 2 to 6 are dependent on claim 1, their subject-matter is therefore novel and inventive.

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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference BO 42118		FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/415)
International application No. PCT/NL99/00757	International filing date (day/month/year) 10/12/1999	Priority date (day/month/year) 11/12/1998
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC B63B43/18		
Applicant SCHELDE MARITIEM B.V. et al.		

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.



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- ☐ This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e. sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).

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- III ☐ Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- IV ☐ Lack of unity of invention
- V ☒ Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability: citations and explanations supporting such statement
- VI ☐ Certain documents cited
- VII ☐ Certain defects in the International application
- VIII ☐ Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 11/07/2000	Date of completion of this report 27.09.2000
Name and mailing address of the international preliminary examining authority:  European Patent Office D-80298 Munich Tel. +49 89 2399 - 0 Tx: 523656 epmu d Fax: +49 89 2399 - 4465	Authorized officer Nicol, Y Telephone No. +49 89 2399 2984 

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No. PCT/NL99/00757

I. Basis of the report

1. This report has been drawn on the basis of (*substitute sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to the report since they do not contain amendments.*):

Description, pages:

1-3 as originally filed

Claims, No.:

1-6 as originally filed

Drawings, sheets:

1/1 as originally filed

2. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- ☐ the description, pages:
- ☐ the claims, Nos.:
- ☐ the drawings, sheets:

3. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed (Rule 70.2(c)):

4. Additional observations, if necessary:

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT**

International application No. PCT/NL99/00757

V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Yes:	Claims	1-6
	No:	Claims	
Inventive step (IS)	Yes:	Claims	1-6
	No:	Claims	
Industrial applicability (IA)	Yes:	Claims	1-6
	No:	Claims	

2. Citations and explanations

see separate sheet

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT - SEPARATE SHEET**

International application No. PCT/NL99/00757

Document **EP 0 799 764**, which is considered to represent the most relevant state of the art, discloses a construction whose aim is to provide a substantially improved collision-resistant double-skinned structure of a vessel.

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This combination of features of independent claim 1 is neither known from, nor rendered obvious by, the available prior art cited in the international search report.

As claims 2 to 6 are dependent on claim 1, their subject-matter is therefore novel and inventive.

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference BO 42118	FOR FURTHER ACTION		see Notification of Transmittal of International Search Report (Form PCT/ISA/220) as well as, where applicable, Item 5 below.
International application No. PCT/NL 99/ 00757	International filing date (day/month/year) 10/12/1999	(Earliest) Priority Date (day/month/year) 11/12/1998	
Applicant SCHELDE MARITIEM B.V. et al.			

This International Search Report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This International Search Report consists of a total of 3 sheets.
☒ It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

1. Basis of the report

a. With regard to the language, the international search was carried out on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

☐ the international search was carried out on the basis of a translation of the international application furnished to this Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).

b. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international search was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

☐ contained in the international application in written form.

☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.

☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.

☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.

☐ the statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.

☐ the statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished

2. ☐ Certain claims were found unsearchable (See Box I).

3. ☐ Unity of invention is lacking (see Box II).

4. With regard to the title,

☒ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☐ the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

5. With regard to the abstract,

☒ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☐ the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box III. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. The figure of the drawings to be published with the abstract is Figure No.

☒ as suggested by the applicant.

☐ because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.

☐ because this figure better characterizes the invention.

1
☐ None of the figures.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/EP 99/00757

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 B63B43/18 B63B3/20 B63B3/62 E04C2/34

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 B63B E04C F41H F42D B32B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	EP 0 799 764 A (SCHELDE MARITIEM B V) 8 October 1997 (1997-10-08) figures 1-3 column 1, line 3 - line 13 column 2, line 31 - line 48 ---	1-5
A	WO 92 10396 A (STUART WILLIAM) 25 June 1992 (1992-06-25) claim 26; figures 3-7 ---	1,3,6
A	GB 10405 A A.D. 1912 (JONES THOMAS T) 17 October 1912 (1912-10-17) figures 1,1A page 1, line 4 - line 8 page 3, line 21 - line 36 page 3, line 56 -page 4, line 4 ---	1,2
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☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date

"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

4 April 2000

Date of mailing of the international search report

12/04/2000

Name and mailing address of the ISA

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Authorized officer

Häusler, F.U.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

P L 99/00757

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 4 530 197 A (RAINVILLE GILLES) 23 July 1985 (1985-07-23) figures 1-3 column 3, line 62 - column 4, line 16 column 4, line 35 - line 57 ---	1,3-5
A	FR 2 276 437 A (MERA-ZSM ZAKLADY SYSTEMOW MINIKOMPUTEROWYCH IM. JANKA KRASICKIEGO) 23 January 1976 (1976-01-23) claim 1; figures 1,2 ---	1-5
A	US 5 379 711 A (FISCHER EUGENE C ET AL) 10 January 1995 (1995-01-10) abstract; figures 1,5 ---	1
A	US 2 405 590 A (MASON WARREN P) 13 August 1946 (1946-08-13) ---	
A	US 5 061 541 A (GERTEL MAURICE) 29 October 1991 (1991-10-29) -----	

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

P NL 99/00757

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
EP 0799764	A	08-10-1997	NL 1002756 C	02-10-1997
WO 9210396	A	25-06-1992	AU 8943691 A	08-07-1992
			DE 69127204 D	11-09-1997
			EP 0559806 A	15-09-1993
			PL 171567 B	30-05-1997
			US 5477797 A	26-12-1995
GB M10405	A		NONE	
US 4530197	A	23-07-1985	DE 3485872 A	24-09-1992
			EP 0130583 A	09-01-1985
FR 2276437	A	23-01-1976	NL 7507152 A	30-12-1975
US 5379711	A	10-01-1995	NONE	
US 2405590	A	13-08-1946	NONE	
US 5061541	A	29-10-1991	NONE	